



***U.S. Senator Joni Ernst for Iowa  
Congressional Nomination to U.S. Service Academies  
Application Deadline – October 7, 2016***

**\*\* NOTE:** *Applicants must apply directly to the U.S. Service Academies in addition to seeking a Congressional nomination. \*\**

Senator Ernst has the honor of nominating some of Iowa's high school students to attend the United States service academies. These academies give young people the opportunity to serve our country while receiving a full four-year scholarship from some of our nation's finest institutions of higher learning.

Admittance to a U.S. service academy is highly competitive and students are encouraged to apply to all academies in which they are interested. Applicants must excel in academics and extracurricular activity, demonstrate leadership traits, interest in the military, and meet physical fitness and medical standards as outlined by the U.S. service academies.

## **Nominations**

Senator Ernst may nominate up to ten eligible Iowa students for each U.S. Service Academy. Each U.S. service academy allocates 5 vacancies to be filled by students selected from Senator Ernst's nominations over a four-year period.

**NOTE:** Students from the state of Iowa apply to fill four vacancies at the Merchant Marine Academy because the Merchant Marine Academy allocates the number of appointments per state based on each state's representation in Congress.

Iowa high school students should also seek nominations from Senator Chuck Grassley and their Congressman.

## **Application Process**

**Please send COMPLETED applications to Senator Ernst's Des Moines office. Applications must be mailed or delivered, faxes or e-mails will not be accepted.**

The Honorable Joni Ernst  
Attn: Academy Nominations  
733 Federal Building  
210 Walnut St.  
Des Moines, IA 50309

Applicants seeking a nomination from Senator Ernst must complete this application and submit it to our Des Moines office with the required supporting material listed below.

Early applications are highly encouraged.

**Required supporting material:**

- **High school transcript**
- **Essay** (Page 5).
- **Recommendation letter from a teacher and two additional recommendation letters from Iowans.** Letters must be sealed, signed and submitted with this application.
- **Guidance counselor evaluation form** (Page 3). This is in addition to your three letters of recommendation.
- **30-60 second video** that briefly explains why you are an ideal candidate to attend a U.S. Service Academy. This is an opportunity to showcase your personality and your motivation to attend a U.S. Service Academy in a creative way.
- **ACT or SAT test score.** ACT or SAT test scores must be sent directly to our Des Moines office by ACT (ID #7130) or SAT (ID #6287).

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